

It Is Finished

John 19:28-30

After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, “I thirst!”²⁹ Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put *it* on hyssop, and put *it* to His mouth.³⁰ So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “**It is finished!**” And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.



I. “Knowing that all things were accomplished” What does that mean?

John 19:28 “After this, knowing that everything had now been accomplished, and to fulfill the Scripture, Jesus said, ‘**I am thirsty.**’”

John 19:30, Jesus declares, “**IT IS FINISHED.**”

- Both statements signal the consummation/finalization of His earthly mission.
Luke 19:10 The Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.
- The term often rendered “**accomplished**” or “**finished**” is the Greek word τετέλεσται (tetelestai), carrying the idea of “**bringing to completion,**” “**fulfilling,**” or “**achieving a certain goal.**”
- These words capture the pinnacle moment of the crucifixion, where Jesus’s purpose on earth converged with fulfilling the prophecies and the redemptive plan outlined throughout Scripture.

II. Fulfillment of Scriptural Prophecies

Numerous prophecies In the Old Testament point to the coming Messiah who would suffer for humanity.

Moses: Deuteronomy 18:15, declares, "The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your brothers. You must listen to him."

- This prophecy is pivotal as it establishes the expectation of a future prophet who would be like Moses, a leader and mediator between God and His people. This prophecy is understood by Christians to be ultimately fulfilled in Jesus Christ, who is seen as the ultimate **prophet, priest, and king**.

Prophecies of Jesus from the O.T. – fulfilled in the N.T.

Although this list is not exhaustive, here are 47 Messianic predictions clearly fulfilled in Jesus Christ, along with supporting references from the Old Testament and New Testament fulfillment.

	Prophecies of Jesus	Old Testament Scripture	New Testament Fulfillment
1	Messiah would be born of a woman.	Genesis 3:15	Matthew 1:20 Galatians 4:4
2	Messiah would be born in Bethlehem.	Micah 5:2	Matthew 2:1 Luke 2:4-6
3	Messiah would be born of a virgin.	Isaiah 7:14	Matthew 1:22-23 Luke 1:26-31
4	Messiah would come from the line of Abraham.	Genesis 12:3 Genesis 22:18	Matthew 1:1 Romans 9:5
5	Messiah would be a descendant of Isaac.	Genesis 17:19 Genesis 21:12	Luke 3:34
6	Messiah would be a descendant of Jacob.	Numbers 24:17	Matthew 1:2
7	Messiah would come from the tribe of Judah.	Genesis 49:10	Luke 3:33 Hebrews 7:14
8	Messiah would be heir to King David's throne.	2 Samuel 7:12-13 Isaiah 9:7	Luke 1:32-33 Romans 1:3
9	Messiah's throne will be anointed and eternal.	Psalms 45:6-7 Daniel 2:44	Luke 1:33 Hebrews 1:8-12
10	Messiah would be called Immanuel.	Isaiah 7:14	Matthew 1:23

11	Messiah would spend a season in Egypt.	Hosea 11:1	Matthew 2:14-15
12	A massacre of children would happen at Messiah's birthplace.	Jeremiah 31:15	Matthew 2:16-18
13	A messenger would prepare the way for Messiah.	Isaiah 40:3-5	Luke 3:3-6
14	Messiah would be preceded by a forerunner.	Malachi 3:1	Matthew 11:10
15	Messiah would be rejected by his own people.	Psalms 69:8 Isaiah 53:3	John 1:11 John 7:5
16	Messiah would be a prophet.	Deuteronomy 18:15	Acts 3:20-22
17	Messiah would be preceded by Elijah.	Malachi 4:5-6	Matthew 11:13-14
18	Messiah would be declared the Son of God.	Psalms 2:7	Matthew 3:16-17
19	Messiah would be called a Nazarene.	Isaiah 11:1	Matthew 2:23
20	Messiah would bring light to Galilee.	Isaiah 9:1-2	Matthew 4:13-16
21	Messiah would speak in parables.	Psalms 78:2-4 Isaiah 6:9-10	Matthew 13:10-15, 34-35
22	Messiah would be sent to heal the brokenhearted.	Isaiah 61:1-2	Luke 4:18-19
23	Messiah would be a priest after the order of Melchizedek.	Psalms 110:4	Hebrews 5:5-6
24	Messiah would be called King.	Psalms 2:6 Zechariah 9:9	Matthew 27:37 Mark 11:7-11
25	Messiah would enter Jerusalem on a donkey.	Zechariah 11:12	Matthew 21:4-5
26	Messiah would be praised by little children.	Psalms 8:2	Matthew 21:16
27	Messiah would be betrayed.	Psalms 41:9 Zechariah 11:12-13	Luke 22:47-48 Matthew 26:14-16
28	Messiah's price money would be used to buy a potter's field.	Zechariah 11:12-13	Matthew 27:9-10
29	Messiah would be falsely accused.	Psalms 35:11	Mark 14:57-58
30	Messiah would be silent before his accusers.	Isaiah 53:7	Mark 15:4-5
31	Messiah would be spat upon and struck.	Isaiah 50:6	Matthew 26:67
32	Messiah would be hated without cause.	Psalms 35:19 Psalm 69:4	John 15:24-25
33	Messiah would be crucified with criminals.	Isaiah 53:12	Matthew 27:38 Mark 15:27-28

34	Messiah would be given vinegar to drink.	Psalm 69:21	Matthew 27:34 John 19:28-30
35	Messiah's hands and feet would be pierced.	Psalm 22:16 Zechariah 12:10	John 20:25-27
36	Messiah would be mocked and ridiculed.	Psalm 22:7-8	Luke 23:35
37	Soldiers would gamble for Messiah's garments.	Psalm 22:18	Luke 23:34 Matthew 27:35-36
38	Messiah's bones would not be broken.	Exodus 12:46 Psalm 34:20	John 19:33-36
39	Messiah would be forsaken by God.	Psalm 22:1	Matthew 27:46
40	Messiah would pray for his enemies.	Psalm 109:4	Luke 23:34
41	Soldiers would pierce Messiah's side.	Zechariah 12:10	John 19:34
42	Messiah would be buried with the rich.	Isaiah 53:9	Matthew 27:57-60
43	Messiah would resurrect from the dead.	Psalm 16:10 Psalm 49:15	Matthew 28:2-7 Acts 2:22-32
44	Messiah would ascend to heaven.	Psalm 24:7-10	Mark 16:19 Luke 24:51
45	Messiah would be seated at God's right hand.	Psalm 68:18 Psalm 110:1	Mark 16:19 Matthew 22:44
46	Messiah would be a sacrifice for sin.	Isaiah 53:5-12	Romans 5:6-8
47	Messiah would return a second time.	Daniel 7:13-14	Revelation 19

- Isaiah 53:5: “But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on Him.” Jesus’s declaration that “everything had now been accomplished” underlines how His suffering and death aligned perfectly with these centuries-old predictions.

Psalm 22, well known for its depiction of suffering, foreshadows the events on the cross.

- Jesus alludes to these prophecies, revealing that His crucifixion was not an unfortunate end but the anticipated culmination of God’s redemptive work.
- By stating “**ALL THINGS ARE ACCOMPLISHED**,” He proclaims that the requirements spoken of by the Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms have been met. Luke 24:44 Then He said to them, “These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me.”

III. Completion of the Mosaic Law

Matthew 5:17, Jesus says, “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them, but to fulfill them.”

- His life, ministry, and death fulfilled the sacrificial system instituted under Moses, where animal sacrifices foreshadowed the ultimate sacrifice-
Hebrews 10:11-14 And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹² But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. ¹⁴ For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.
- On the cross, **ALL** the regulations of the Mosaic Law-which repeatedly emphasized atonement through the shedding of blood reach their climax and completion in Christ’s final act of offering Himself on behalf of humanity.

Hebrews 7:27 Who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the peoples, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.

Rather than abolishing God’s commands, Jesus accomplished their highest goal:

By bridging humanity’s sinfulness with God’s holiness.



His words “**ALL THINGS ARE ACCOMPLISHED**” speak of completing every obligation required by the Law and satisfying its demands in full.

IV. The Redemptive Significance

“**It is finished**” echoes the idea of a debt fully paid.

In the Greco-Roman world, a transaction would bear the stamp “**TETELESTAI**,” signifying that all debts were settled.

- Through Christ’s death, your and my debt of sin is paid for.

Isaiah 53:5,6,10 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. The Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. It pleased the Lord to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin...

The barrier separating humanity from God was removed, enabling reconciliation for anyone who receives this sacrifice by faith. Colossians 2:14 – Having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

His death finalizes the payment for sin, while His resurrection confirms His power to conquer death 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,



- By declaring “**ALL THINGS ARE ACCOMPLISHED,**” Jesus indicates the redemptive work is completed so that the resurrection would affirm His victory over the grave.

V. Unification of God’s Plan

From the moment sin entered the world in Genesis 3, Scripture reveals God’s plan for redemption as a progressive unfolding of **events**, **covenants**, and **promises** leading to the Messiah.

- **“ALL THINGS ARE ACCOMPLISHED”** emphasizes that every foreshadow in the sacrificial system, every Messianic prophecy, and every need for atonement comes to fruition in that moment.
- This completion also reminds us that the message of salvation is available to all people.
- From Genesis to the crucifixion, the Biblical story reveals one consistent redemptive emphasis:

RETURNING HUMANITY TO FELLOWSHIP WITH ITS CREATOR.

VI. Intersection with the Resurrection

The crucifixion paid the debt, but the resurrection testifies to its acceptance before God - Romans 4:25 Who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.

- If the crucifixion had ended the story, the accomplished work would not have been publicly vindicated.
- The resurrection proves Jesus’s words were true and that He is indeed the victorious Messiah.

Now, the risen Jesus instructs His followers to proclaim this redemptive reality throughout the world - Matthew 28:18-20 “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

The commission flows from the completed work on the cross, confirming that His sacrifice has forever changed humanity’s spiritual condition.

VII. Practical Implications for Believers

1. Assurance of Salvation: Since the payment for sin is fully made, believers should not fear additional penalties. **“ALL THINGS ARE ACCOMPLISHED”** reminds us that our standing before God relies on Christ’s sacrifice, not on human achievement.

2. Freedom from Ritualistic Burden: Because Jesus perfectly fulfilled the Law, believers live under grace without the weight of ceremonial requirements – Galatians 2:16 Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by

faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

- Christ's death ushers in the New Covenant, where worship flows from a changed heart.

3. Hope Amid Suffering: Jesus's pain on the cross accomplished a greater purpose providing believers with the perspective that hardships do contribute to God's total plan.

4. A motivation for Proclamation: Because "**ALL THINGS ARE ACCOMPLISHED**," we can confidently share with others the message of God's grace, inviting them to experience the finalized forgiveness found in Christ.

VIII. Conclusion

When Jesus declared "**ALL THINGS ARE ACCOMPLISHED**," He did not merely mean the end of His physical life.

- He signaled the fulfillment of the entire biblical record that anticipated His redemptive sacrifice –
- Those who would come to Him by faith can find peace/shalom in the promise of those final words: "**It Is Finished**"

Every requirement of the Law, every prophecy, and every necessary atoning act has been brought to completion.

"**IT IS FINISHED**," is the sure foundation for hope, reconciliation, and eternal life!